ABSTRACT

The subject of the present invention is to provide a β-lactam acylase protein having high activity, a gene coding for said β -lactam acylase protein, a recombinant 5 vector having said gene, a transformant containing said recombinant vector, and a method of producing a β -lactam antibiotic such as amoxycillin using said β -lactam acylase. A β-lactam acylase gene of Stenotrophomonas maltophilia was cloned, the DNA base sequence and the amino acid sequence 10 expected therefrom was determined, and a Stenotrophomonas β -lactam acylase gene was obtained. This gene was found to code for a protein with a molecular weight of about 70 kDa and having $\beta\text{--lactam}$ acylase activity, and could efficiently produce amoxycillin without being inhibited by phenylacetic 15 acid, etc. Furthermore, by modification of the amino acid sequence, a protein which can more efficiently produce amoxycillin could be obtained.

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